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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Inventors: Kuniyuki KAJITA, et al.

Art Unit: 2816—

Application No.: 09/979,587

Filed: November 26, 2001

For: GAIN CONTROL APPARATUS

RECEIVED

MAY 27 2004

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Technology Center 2600

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to Rules 56 and 99, Applicants hereby call the attention of the Patent Office to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. Attached is a Japanese Office Action dated March 9, 2004, with a partial English translation thereof. US '997 and '721 corresponds to JP 08-172417 and US '332 corresponds to JP 06-216954.

Applicants present this art so that the Patent Office may, in the first instance, determine any relevancy thereof to the presently claimed invention, see Beckman Instruments, Inc. v. Chemtronics, Inc., 439 F.2d 1369, 1380, 165 USPQ 355, 364 (5th Cir. 1970). Also see Patent Office Rules 104 and 106. Applicants respectfully request that this art be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application and made of record herein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue herefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

James E. Ledbetter
Registration No. 28,732

Date: May 24, 2004

JEL/mat

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FORM PTO-1449 U.S. Department of Commerce
(Rev. 4/92) Patent and Trademark OfficeINFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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ATTY. DOCKET NO.

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SERIAL NO.

09/979,587

APPLICANT

Kuniyuki KAJITA

FILING DATE

November 26, 2001

GROUP

2816

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	6 4 5 9 7 2 1	10/2002	Mochizuki			
	5 4 5 2 3 3 2	09/1995	Otani et al			
	5 8 5 6 9 9 7	01/1999	Mochizuki			

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION
					YES NO
6 1 0 0 9 0 0 9	01/1986	JP			Abstract
6 3 2 3 7 6 0 3	10/1988	JP			Abstract
0 5 0 4 1 6 2 3	02/1993	JP			Abstract
0 6 2 1 6 9 5 4	08/1994	JP			Abstract
0 9 2 4 7 1 1 3	09/1997	JP			Abstract
2 0 0 0 5 9 1 5 8	02.2000	JP			Abstract
0 6 2 4 4 7 5 4	09/1994	JP			Abstract
0 8 1 7 2 4 1 7	07/1996	JP			Abstract
0 9 2 9 4 1 4 6	11/1997	JP			Abstract
2 0 0 0 7 8 1 1 0	03/2000	JP			Abstract
0 9 3 0 7 3 8 0	11/1997	JP			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

Japanese Notice of Reason for Rejection issued March 9, 2004

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation is considered, draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered.
Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.